(b) by when the said commercial launch is likely to commence; and

(c) whether there would be any tie-up with other countries in such commercial launching?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): (a) Yes, Sir. Antrix Corporation Limited, which is the commercial arm of ISRO, is marketing launch services using India's Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle (PSLV) and Geo-synchronous Satellite Launch Vehicle (GSLV), on commercial basis.

(b) So far, two satellites from Germany (1999 & 2001) and one each from Republic of Korea (1999) and Belgium (2001) have been launched commercially by PSLV as piggy-back along with Indian satellites. Three more contracts have been entered into for the launch of satellites of foreign agencies using PSLV.

(c) Presently, Antrix Corporation Limited has a cooperative tie-up with the Arianespace of France for commercial marketing of launching satellites.

Discussion on Global Warming in G-8 Summit

*71. SHRI R.S. GAVAI:
SHRI MANOJ BHATTACHARYA:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a conference of industrial nations of the world was held recently in Scotland;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of the discussion held with regard to global warming;

(d) what steps would be taken to check this problem;

(e) whether the developed countries agreed to reduce the increasing Green House emissions; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) to (f) The annual G-8 Summit was held in Gleneagles, UK from July 6-8, 2005. Leaders of Brazil, China, India, Mexico and South Africa were invited to join the discussions on the

global economy, climate change and sustainable development on July 7, 2005. Leaders from seven African countries joined the discussions on Africa and development that were held on July 8, 2005.

2. The G-8 agreed that climate change is happening now, that human activity is contributing to it, and that it could affect every part of the globe. They adopted the Gleneagles Plan of Action on Climate Change, Clean Energy and Sustainable Development to address the problem of global warming. The Summit also initiated a new dialogue between the G-8 nations and other countries with significant energy needs, consistent with the aims and principles of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change.

3. The G-8 recognised that in moving towards a low-carbon economy, leadership will be required from the developed world. They agreed to act with resolve and urgency now to meet the shared and multiple objectives of reducing greenhouse gas emissions, improving the global environment, enhancing energy security and cutting air pollution in conjunction with vigorous efforts to reduce poverty.

Debt burden of Orissa

*72. SHRI RUDRA NARAYAN PANY:
SHRI B.J. PANDA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that Orissa State has an accumulated debt burden of Rs. 31,636 crores as on 31st March, 2005;

(b) whether Government are also aware of progress made by Orissa State in reining in its deficits through tough and difficult steps;

(c) whether the cash-strapped State has requested the Centre to grant them monthly allocation of its plan assistance and share of Central taxes, as the State has no resources to meet its part of obligation for development works; and

(d) if so, the action plan of the Centre to help the State to overcome the current financial condition?